

FOR the purpose of requesting the Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms to permit continued packaging of 4-ounce Intrastate alcoholic beverage containers.

WHEREAS, For many years, Maryland alcoholic beverage bottlers and distillers have packaged and distributed within the State of Maryland alcoholic beverages in bottles and containers having a 4-ounce capacity; and

WHEREAS, The bottlers and distributors provide employment for many Maryland residents, and the sales of 4-ounce containers are a source of substantial tax revenue to the State of Maryland; and

WHEREAS, On July 1, 1980, the United States is adopting the Metric System. In conjunction with said Metric System, the Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms has indicated to the Comptroller of the State of Maryland that 4-ounce alcoholic beverage containers will no longer be permitted for sale in the State of Maryland, even though these containers are packaged and sold only within the borders of the State of Maryland; and

WHEREAS, The provisions of the Twenty-First Amendment to the United States Constitution specifically permit each state to regulate the control and flow of alcoholic beverages within its borders; and

WHEREAS, The proposed action of the Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms is an infringement upon the clear Constitutional rights of the State of Maryland, and would result in the possible closing of long-established Maryland businesses, loss of substantial tax revenues to the State of Maryland, and loss of many jobs for the citizens of Maryland; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Comptroller of the Treasury of the State of Maryland take all necessary action and steps with the Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms to permit the continued packaging and intrastate distribution of 4-ounce alcoholic beverage containers in the State of Maryland; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution be sent to the Honorable Louis L. Goldstein, Comptroller of the State of Maryland; the Honorable Joseph P. Oates, Director, Alcohol and Tobacco Tax Division; Comptroller of the Treasury, State of Maryland; each of the Maryland Senators and Congressmen; and John Krogman, Acting Director of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms.

Signed April 10, 1979.

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